Mr. John Wilkins

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NUMB. XXXVI.] THE [APRIL 1, 1787.

PITTSBURGH GAZETTE

Price SIX-PENCE.] SATURDAY, May 31 APRIL 1, 1787. [VOL. I.

THOUGHTS upon the Mode of EDUCATION proper in a Republic.

(Concluded from our laſt.)

I Cannot help bearing a teſtimony, in this place, againſt the cuſtom, which prevails in ſome parts of America, but which is daily falling into diſuſe in Europe, of crouding boys together under one roof for the purpoſe of education. The practice is the gloomy remains of monkiſh ignorance, and is as unfavorable to the improvements of the mind in uſeful learning, as monaſteries are to the ſpirit of religion. I grant this mode of ſecluding boys from the intercourſe of private families, has a tendency to make them ſcholars, but our buſineſs is to make them men, citizens and Chriſtians. The vices of young people are generally learned from each other. The vices of adults ſeldom infect them. By ſeparating them from each other, therefore, in their hours of relaxation from ſtudy, we ſecure their morals from a principal ſource of corruption, while we improve their manners, by ſubjecting them to thoſe reſtraints, which the difference of age and ſex, naturally produce in private families.

I have hitherto ſaid nothing of the amuſements that are proper for young people in a republic. Thoſe which promote health and good humour, will have a happy effect upon morals and government. To increaſe this influence, let the perſons who direct theſe amuſements, be admitted into good company, and ſubjected, by that means, to reſtraints in behavior and moral conduct. Taverns, which in moſt countries are expoſed to riot and vice, in Connecticut are places of buſineſs and innocent pleaſure, becauſe the tavern-keepers in that country are generally men of ſober and reſpectable characters. The theatre will never be perfectly reformed till players are treated with the ſame reſpect as perſons of other ornamental profeſſions. It is to no purpoſe to attempt to write or preach down an amuſement, which ſeizes ſo forcibly upon all the powers of the mind. Let miniſters preach to players, inſtead of againſt them; let them open their churches and the ordinances of religion to them and their families, and, I am perſuaded, we ſhall ſoon ſee ſuch a reformation in the theatre as can never be effected by all the means that have hitherto been employed for that purpoſe. It is poſſible to render the ſtage, by theſe means, ſubſervient to the purpoſes of virtue and even religion. Why ſhould the miniſter of the goſpel exclude the player from his viſits, or from his public or private inſtructions? The author of chriſtianity knew no difference in the occupations of men. He eat and drank daily with publicans and ſinners.

From the obſervations that have been made it is plain, that I conſider it as poſſible to convert men into republican machines. This muſt be done, if we expect them to perform their parts properly, in the great machine of the government of the ſtate. That republic is ſophiſticated with monarchy or ariſtocracy that does not revolve upon the wills of the people, and theſe muſt be fitted to each other by means of education before they can be made to produce regularity and uniſon in government.

Having pointed out thoſe general principles, which ſhould be inculcated alike in all the ſchools of the ſtate, I proceed now to make a few remarks upon the method of conducting, what is commonly called, a liberal or learned education in a republic.

I ſhall begin this part of my ſubject by bearing a teſtimony againſt the common practice of attempting to to teach boys the learned languages, and the arts and ſciences too early in life. The firſt twelve years of life are barely ſufficient to inſtruct a boy in reading, writing and arithmetic. With theſe, he may be taught thoſe modern languages which are neceſſary for him to ſpeak.

The ſtate of the memory, in early life, is favorable to the acquiſition of languages, eſpecially when they are conveyed to the mind through the ear. It is, moreover, in early life only, that the organs of ſpeech yield in ſuch a manner as to favor the juſt pronounciation of foreign languages.

I do not wiſh the learned or dead languages, as they are commonly called, to be reduced below their preſent juſt rank in the univerſities of Europe, eſpecially as I conſider an acquaintance with them as the beſt foundation for a correct and extenſive knowledge of the language of our country. Too much pains cannot be taken to teach our youth to read and write our American language with propriety and elegance. The ſtudy of the Greek language conſtituted a material part of the literature of the Athenians, hence the ſublimity, purity and immortality of ſo many of their writings. The advantages of a perfect knowledge of our language to young men intended for the profeſſions of law, phyſic or divinity, are too obvious to be mentioned, but in a ſtate which boaſts of the firſt commercial city in America, I wiſh to ſee it cultivated by young men, who are intended for the compting houſe, for many ſuch, I hope, will be educated in our colleges. The time is paſt when an academical education was thought to be unneceſſary to qualify a young man for merchandize, I conceive no profeſſion is capable of receiving more embelliſhments from it.

Connected with the ſtudy of our own language is the ſtudy of eloquence. It is well known how great a part it conſtituted of the Roman education. It is the firſt accompliſhment in a republic, and often ſets the whole machine of government in motion. Let our youth, therefore, be inſtructed in this art. We do not extol it too highly when we attribute as much to the power of eloquence as to the ſword in bringing about the American revolution.

With the uſual arts and ſciences that are taught in our American colleges, I wiſh to ſee a regular courſe of lectures given upon hiſtory and chronology. The ſcience of government, whether it relates to conſtitutions or laws, can only be advanced by a careful ſelection of facts, and theſe are to be found chiefly in hiſtory. Above all, let our youth be inſtructed in the hiſtory of the ancient republics, and the progreſs of liberty and tyranny in the different ſtates of Europe. I wiſh likewiſe to ſee the numerous facts that relate to the origin and preſent ſtate of commerce, together with the nature and principles of money, reduced to ſuch a ſyſtem as to be intelligible and agreeable to a young man. If we conſider the commerce of our metropolis only as the avenue of the wealth of the ſtate, the ſtudy of it merits a place in a young man's education; but, I conſider commerce in a much higher light when I recommend the ſtudy of it in republican ſeminaries. I view it as the beſt ſecurity againſt the influence of hereditary monopolies of land, and, therefore, the ſureſt protection againſt ariſtocracy. I conſider its effects as next to thoſe of religion in humanizing mankind, and laſtly, I view it as the means of uniting the different nations of the world together by the ties of mutual wants and obligations.

Chymiſtry, by unfolding to us the effects of heat and mixture, enlarges our acquaintance with the wonders of nature, and the myſteries of art, hence it has become, in moſt of the univerſities of Europe, a neceſſary branch of a gentleman's education. In a young country, where improvements in agriculture and manufactures are ſo much to be deſired, the cultivation of this ſcience, which explains the principles of both of them, ſhould be conſidered as an object of the utmoſt importance.

In a ſtate where every citizen is liable to be a ſoldier and a legiſlator, it will be neceſſary to have ſome regular inſtruction given upon the art of war and upon practical legiſlation. Theſe branches of knowledge are of too much importance in a republic to be truſted to ſolitary ſtudy, or to a fortuitous acquaintance with books. Let mathematical learning, therefore, be carefully applied, in our colleges, to gunnery and fortification, and let philoſophy be applied to the hiſtory of thoſe compoſitions which have been made uſe of for the terrible purpoſes of deſtroying human life. Theſe branches of knowledge will be indiſpenſably neceſſary in our republic, if unfortunately war ſhould continue hereafter to be the unchriſtian mode of arbitrating diſputes between Chriſtian nations. Again, let our youth be inſtructed in all the means of promoting national proſperity and independence, whether they relate to improvements in agriculture, manufactures, or inland navigation. Let him be inſtructed further in the general principles of legiſlation, whether they relate to revenue, or to the preſervation of life, liberty or property. Let him be directed frequently to attend the courts of juſtice, where he will have the beſt opportunities of acquiring habits of arranging and comparing his ideas by obſerving the ſecretion of truth, in the examination of witneſſes, and where he will hear the laws of the ſtate explained, with all the advantages of that ſpecies of eloquence which belongs to the bar. Of ſo much importance do I conceive it to be, to a young man, to attend occaſionally to the deciſions of our courts of law, that I wiſh to ſee our colleges and academies eſtabliſhed only in county towns.

But further, conſidering the nature of our connection with the United States it will be neceſſary to make our pupil acquainted with all the prerogatives of the federal government. He muſt be inſtructed in the nature and variety of treaties. He muſt know the difference in the powers and duties of the ſeveral ſpecies of ambaſſadors. He muſt be taught wherein the obligations of individuals and of ſtates are the ſame, and wherein they differ. In ſhort, he muſt acquire a general knowledge of all thoſe laws and forms, which unite the ſovereigns of the earth, or ſeparate them from each other.

I have only to add that it will be to no purpoſe to adopt this, or any other mode of education, unleſs we make choice of ſuitable maſters to carry our plans into execution. Let our teachers be diſtinguiſhed for their abilities and knowledge. Let them be grave in their manners; gentle in their tempers; exemplary in their morals, and of ſound principles in religion and government. Let us not leave their ſupport to the precarious reſources to be derived from their pupils, but let ſuch funds be provided for our ſchools and colleges as will enable us to allow them liberal ſalaries. By theſe means we ſhall render the chairs; the profeſſorſhips and rectorſhips of our colleges and academies objects of competition among learned men. By conferring upon our maſters that independence which is the companion of competency, we ſhall, moreover, ſtrengthen their authority over the youth committed to their care. Let us remember that a great part of the divines, lawyers, phyſicians, legiſlators, ſoldiers, generals, delegates, counſellors, and governors of the ſtate will probably paſs thro' their hands. How great then ſhould be the wiſdom! how honorable the rank! and how generous the reward of thoſe men who are to form theſe neceſſary and leading members of the republic!

I beg pardon for having delayed ſo long, to ſay any thing of the ſeparate and peculiar mode of education proper for WOMEN in a republic. I am ſenſible that they muſt concur in all our plans of education for young men, or no laws will ever render them effectual. To qualify our women for this purpoſe, they ſhould be inſtructed in the principles of liberty and government; and the obligations of patriotiſm ſhould be inculcated upon them. The opinions and conduct of men are often regulated by women in the moſt arduous enterpriſes of life; and their approbation is frequently the principal reward of the hero's dangers, and the patriots toils. Beſides, the firſt impreſſions upon the minds of children are generally derived from the women. Of how much conſequence, therefore, is it in a republic, that they ſhould think juſtly upon the great ſubjects of liberty and government!

The complaints that have been made againſt religion, liberty and learning, have been made againſt each of them in a ſeparate ſtate. Perhaps like certain liquors, they ſhould only be uſed in a ſtate of mixture. They mutually aſſiſt in correcting the abuſes, and in improving the good effects of each other. From the combined and reciprocal influence of religion, liberty, and learning upon the morals, manners, and knowledge of individuals, of theſe, upon government, and of government, upon individuals, it is impoſſible to meaſure the degrees of happineſs and perfection to which mankind may be raiſed For my part, I can form no ideas of the golden age, ſo much celebrated by the poets, more delightful, than the contemplation of that happineſs which it is now in the power of the legiſlature of Pennſylvania to confer upon her citizens, by eſtabliſhing proper modes and places of education in every part of the ſtate.

The preſent time is peculiarly favorable to the eſtabliſhment of theſe benevolent and neceſſary inſtitutions in Pennſylvania. The minds of our people have not as yet loſt the yielding texture they acquired by the heat of the late revolution. They will now receive more readily, than five or even three years hence, new impreſſions and habits of all kinds. The ſpirit of liberty now pervades every part of the ſtate. The influence of error and deception are now of ſhort duration. Seven years hence, the affairs of our ſtate may aſſume a new complexion. We may be rivetted to a criminal indifference for the ſafety and happineſs of ourſelves and our poſterity. An ariſtocratic or democratic junto may ariſe, that ſhall find its deſpotic views connected with the prevalence of ignorance and vice in the ſtate; or a few artful pedagogues who conſider learning as uſeful only in proportion as it favours their pride or avarice, may prevent all new literary eſtabliſhments from taking place, by raiſing a hue and cry againſt them, as the offſpring of improper rivalſhip, or the nurſeries of party ſpirit.

But in vain ſhall we laviſh pains and expence, in eſtabliſhing nurſeries of virtue and knowledge in eve-

ry part of the ſtate. In vain ſhall we attempt to give the minds of our citizens a virtuous and uniform bias in early life, while the arms of our ſtate are opened wide to receive into its boſom, and to confer equal privileges upon, the virtuous emigrant, and the annual ejecta of the gaols of Britain, Ireland, and our ſiſter ſtates. Of the many criminals that have been executed within theſe ſeven years, four out of five of them have been foreigners, who have arrived here during the war and ſince the peace. We are yet, perhaps, to ſee, and deplore the tracks of the enormous vices and crimes theſe men have left behind them. Legiſlators of Pennſylvania! Stewards of the juſtice and virtue of heaven! Fathers of children, who may be corrupted and diſgraced by bad examples; ſay ---can nothing be done to preſerve our morals, manners, and government, from the infection of European vices?

The SUBSCRIBER.

NUMBER XVII.

MYSELF.

MY readers, will, doubtleſs, on ſeeing the head of this number, accuſe me with vanity, for daring ſo impudently to place *myſelf* foremoſt. But I muſt beg them to ſuſpend their judgments till I have explained the matter a little.

Underſtanding from my truſty friends that the public began to tire of a continued ſeries of inſtruction, I thought it would be much better to change my plan, and turn to ſomething which ſhould be both entertaining and uſeful. On due conſideration (for I have learned to look before I leap) I thought that, for ſeveral reaſons, my own life, adventures, and opinions, would be the moſt ſuitable for my preſent purpoſe: and none of my former numbers having wanted a head, I thought I ſhould look very ſilly without one, and therefore introduced the preſent ſubject with myſelf,---which, I doubt not, the candid and generous will allow is ſufficient to acquit me of vanity.

Having now got into and out of a hobble, I ſhall endeavour to come to the point, and ſay when, where, and how I was born, bred, and educated; who were my godfathers and godmothers, who were goſſips at the chriſtening, who were-----But, 'tis all nonſenſe, nobody will thank me for my pains: and had I not fortunately recollected that I was going on in the ſtrain of ſome of the ſtory books I read when I was a boy, I might have made my readers ſtill more tired of my life and adventures, than, I am told, they have got with my inſtructions.

Therefore, I ſhall now poſitively proceed with my narration, in a manner, too, which will doubtleſs gratify the public.

At the age of fifteen, I found myſelf apprentice to an eminent ſhopkeeper in the town of Lancaſter: here I enjoyed as much happineſs as my own ambition would allow, which, however, thought no happineſs like that of keeping a ſhop for myſelf.

My maſter ſoon after removed to Philadelphia, where my mind took another turn; I now thought no pleaſure equal to that of ſitting behind the counter with Tom Jones, Roderic Random, or ſome other humorous novel in my hand. This enjoyment, however, (like moſt, I may ſay all, which fall to the ſhare of humanity) laſted no longer than till I had read novels enough to convince me they were all nearly alike.

Though I had been diſguſted with novel reading, I was not ſo with literature in general. I now read every thing I could procure which promiſed the leaſt inſtruction. After reading a great deal to little purpoſe, (for there is little, except entertainment, got by this kind of promiſcuous reading) I procured a copy of leſtures on elocution, by a then celebrated writer. To this I ſeriouſly applied myſelf, and after reading it and re-reading it, I became ſo enamoured that I reſolved to commence writer.

For this purpoſe, when the weather was ſerene, I uſed to walk to the commons, to compoſe pieces to be committed to paper on my return.

On a fine afternoon, after reading that part of my favorite author which treated of ſtile, I reſolved to try what figure my own would make in a deſcription of this beautiful evening. I ſallied forth full of tropes and figures, and ſoon reached the commons, where my luxuriant imagination was greatly aſſiſted by the objects which preſented themſelves. The ſhepherds and ſhepherdeſſes tending their flocks; the calm ſerenity which reigned throughout the plain; the beautiful herbs and flowers, with many other of the beauties of nature were brought into my deſcription, when I thought it ſo much like ſo many others I had read, that I determined to drop the attempt. And I might then ſafely have ſaid, with many others now-a-days, "Devil take theſe ancients, they have ſtolen all my fine thoughts from me." But to complete my mortification, two of ſhepherds (butcher's boys, placed there to watch the ſheep which are to be taken to market) began to quarrel, and, "Tiſſ's kint, and Hellkrutz," reſounded thro' the heretoſore "calm ſerenity of the plain," 'till they gathered a mob of ſhepherds and ſhepherdeſſes, that I was extremely happy to eſcape from.

I ſtill marched on, intending to croſs the Schuylkill and go to the houſe of a friend, where, if I could not deſcribe, I might at leaſt enjoy, the fine evening. I ſoon reached the houſe, was cordially welcomed by my friend, and invited to partake of a bowl of delicious ſyllabub. I ſtaid till I judged it time to return, and then ſaying God bleſs them, I moved homeward much better pleaſed with the reality than the deſcription of rural enjoyments.

I had not, however, advanced many paces, when I obſerved every appearance of a tremendous ſtorm gathering in the weſt. But, inſtead of endeavouring to eſcape from it, as a wiſer man would have done---- I began to deſcribe it.

I was ſo intent upon my deſcription, that it was ſome time before I felt myſelf getting wet: however, thinks I'll walk ſlowly on till I get better acquainted with the ſubject. The rain ſtill encreaſed, it thundered and lightened; and, by the time I reached Market-ſtreet, I was ſo *thoroughly acquainted with the ſubject*, that I was glad to pop into the firſt houſe that would receive me.

(To be continued.)

Foreign Intelligence.

PARIS, November 24.

LETTERS from Normandy give an account of an act of heroiſm that deſerves to be recorded. In the ſtorm between the 6th and 7th of laſt month, the veſſel commanded by captain Robert, of Fecamp, was driven on ſhore, when Jean Francois Peſtel, of the pariſh of Berniers Surmer, judging it was ſcarcely poſſible the veſſel could eſcape being overſet, undreſſed himſelf, and having tied a rope round his wriſt, plunged into the ſea, and gained the ſhore, notwithſtanding the darkneſs of the night and the fury of the wind and waves. By means of this rope he ſaved the lives of ten perſons he left on board, and in two minutes after the laſt had quitted the ſhip, ſhe was daſhed to pieces.

They write from Point-a-Mouſſon, that about midnight, between the 6th and 7th of laſt month, a fire broke out in a barn, and the flames communicated to ſome magazines for wood, they could not be ſuppreſſed till ſix o'clock in the morning. Upwards of twenty perſons periſhed in the attempt to prevent the flames ſpreading to the neighbouring dwelling houſes; and four of the regiment of Rochefoucault were wounded, but not dangerouſly.

LONDON, December 16.

One of the moſt comprehenſive and inviting advertiſements we recollect to have ſeen, was publiſhed lately by a perriwig-maker in Dublin, who holds out the following inducement to people of the different profeſſions. To eccleſiaſtical perriwigs he gives a certain demure air: he confers on the wigs of the law an appearance of great ſagacity and deep penetration; on thoſe of the faculty of phyſic he caſts a ſolemnity and gravity that gives aſſurance of profoundeſt knowledge; To thoſe of the military caſt, he adds the animating buckle, which gives the wearer a moſt warlike fierceneſs; for citizens and tradeſmen, he has contrived a wig, which, by putting on, or taking off the tail at pleaſure, will leave them both for dreſs and buſineſs. He further gives notice, that for the accommodation of young barriſters not much troubled with caſh or buſineſs, he has invented wigs, the bags of which can be tied into a ſmart bob in vacation, and reſtored again in their priſtine form at the return of term.

Letters from Bruſſels, dated November 10, ſay, that the emperor has, within theſe few weeks enacted ſome new ſumptuary laws, by which every article of the Britiſh woolen manufacture has been prohibited in the Auſtrian Netherlands.

All accounts from the continent agree, that there is the utmoſt reaſon to believe that the ſword will be drawn between Ruſſia and the Porte before the new year.

The dreadful death general Matthews ſuffered, by order of Tippoo Saib, having been generally imputed to wanton barbarity in that chief, and that neither the unfortunate veteran nor any of his corps gave the ſmalleſt offence to the Myſore prince; but that the cruelties they ſuffered were practiſed in conſequence of the ferocious temper of Tippoo; we here preſent our readers with an extract of a letter from Bombay, dated the 18th of October laſt, which aſſigns a reaſon, however weak, why the unfortunate army and their brave leader were treated with indignity and inhumanity.

"When we ſurrendered Bedanore to Tippoo Saib, it was ſtipulated by one of the articles of the capitulation, that all the public property ſhould remain in the fort. Notwithſtanding this, general Matthews retained in his poſſeſſion a ſum of public treaſure amounting to 50,000 pagodas; and that he might be enabled the more eaſily to carry it off without diſcovery, he directed Mr. Stewart, the paymaſter, to diſtribute it in ſmall proportions among the officers, each officer taking much as he choſe, it being underſtood that each man was to return what he received from the paymaſter for the uſe of general Matthews, as ſoon as they ſhould arrive at Sadaſhagar, the place, where by the terms of the capitulation, they were to embark for Bombay. The money was accordingly diſtributed, and would probably have been carried off ſecurely, but for an accident. When our troops were marching out of the fort, a bed belonging to one of the officers was dropped, and in this bed was found a bag containing 400 pagodas. Information of this was immediately carried to Tippoo, who was led to ſuſpect from hence, and alſo from the circumſtances of not a rupee of public money being left in the fort, that we had broken that article of the capitulation, which provided for the delivery of all the public treaſure in the fort to him. In conſequence of this ſuſpicion he gave orders for a general ſearch of the officers and men. The ſearch was made; his ſuſpicion proved to be well founded, the money was diſcovered, and the officers were plundered of almoſt every thing they had. This I took this day from the mouth of Mr. Keith, an officer of the 42d regiment, who was in the fort at Bedanore at the time we ſurrendered it."

The truth of the above extract we cannot vouch for; but as it contains the firſt reaſon that has been yet aſſigned for Tippoo's cruelties, we thought it our duty to publiſh it.

A letter from Cirenceſter ſays, 'That a navigable work of a moſt arduous and extenſive nature, is now carrying on in that neighbourhood; which is nothing leſs than a junction between the Thames and Severn.' In this undertaking a prodigious mountain of more two miles and a quarter in length will be cut through, ſo that barges of 60 or 70 tons burthen may paſs. Near two miles of this ſubterraneous work are nearly finiſhed, and the whole navigation, which is thirty miles long, is expected to be finiſhed in a year and an half, but was hitherto imagined to be impracticable. When completed London will have a grand inland communication, (by water) with almoſt all parts of England and Wales, ſo that the trade upon this navigation muſt be immenſe. The people near the part of it that is already finiſhed, feel its good effects, by a conſiderable reduction in the price of coals.

At the preſent period, when the maritime powers of Europe found the proſperity of their ſtates on the baſis of commerce, each of them ſtrives to incline the balance in their own favor. Ruſſia (too high to the northward to ſend her fleets to India by the Cape of Good Hope, and to enter into a competition with the nations more favourably ſituated) is opening herſelf a route formerly known to the Romans and Genoeſe.---She makes her ſhips deſcend by the Volga to the Caſpian Sea, and her merchants endeavour to draw towards them the merchandiſe of Perſia, and the northern provinces of the Mogul empire.

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ry part of the ſtate. In vain ſhall we attempt to give the minds of our citizens a virtuous and uniform bias in early life, while the arms of our ſtate are opened wide to receive into its boſom, and to confer equal privileges upon, the virtuous emigrant, and the annual exiſtence of the gaols of Britain, Ireland, and our ſiſter ſtates. Of the many criminals that have been executed within theſe ſeven years, four out of five of them have been foreigners, who have arrived here during the war and ſince the peace. We are yet, perhaps, to ſee, and deplore the tracks of the enormous vices and crimes theſe men have left behind them. Legiſlators of Pennſylvania! Stewards of the juſtice and virtue of heaven! Fathers of children, who may be corrupted and diſgraced by bad examples; ſay ---can nothing be done to preſerve our morals, manners, and government, from the infection of European vices?

The SUBSCRIBER.

NUMBER XVII.

MYSELF.

MY readers, will, doubtleſs, on ſeeing the head of this number, accuſe me with vanity, for daring ſo impudently to place *myſelf* foremoſt. But I muſt beg them to ſuſpend their judgments till I have explained the matter a little.

Underſtanding from my truſty friends that the public began to tire of a continued ſeries of inſtruction, I thought it would be much better to change my plan, and turn to ſomething which ſhould be both entertaining and uſeful. On due conſideration (for I have learned to look before I leap) I thought that, for ſeveral reaſons, my own life, adventures, and opinions, would be the moſt ſuitable for my preſent purpoſe: and none of my former numbers having wanted a head, I thought I ſhould look very ſilly without one, and therefore introduced the preſent ſubject with myſelf,---which, I doubt not, the candid and generous will allow is ſufficient to acquit me of vanity.

Having now got into and out of a hobble, I ſhall endeavour to come to the point, and ſay when, where, and how I was born, bred, and educated; who were my godfathers and godmothers, who were goſſips at the chriſtening, who were------But, 'tis all nonſenſe, nobody will thank me for my pains: and had I not fortunately recollected that I was going on in the ſtrain of ſome of the ſtory books I read when I was a boy, I might have made my readers ſtill more tired of my life and adventures, than, I am told, they have got with my inſtructions.

Therefore, I ſhall now poſitively proceed with my harration, in a manner, too, which will doubtleſs gratify the public.

At the age of fifteen, I found myſelf apprentice to an eminent ſhopkeeper in the town of Lancaſter: here I enjoyed as much happineſs as my own ambition would allow, which, however, thought no happineſs like that of keeping a ſhop for myſelf.

My maſter ſoon after removed to Philadelphia, where my mind took another turn; I now thought no pleaſure equal to that of ſitting behind the counter with Tom Jones, Roderic Random, or ſome other humorous novel in my hand. This enjoyment, however, (like moſt, I may ſay all, which fall to the ſhare of humanity) laſted no longer than till I had read novels enough to convince me they were all nearly alike.

Though I had been diſguſted with novel reading, I was not ſo with literature in general. I now read every thing I could procure which promiſed the leaſt inſtruction. After reading a great deal to little purpoſe, (for there is little, except entertainment, got by this kind of promiſcuous reading) I procured a copy of leſtures on elocution, by a then celebrated writer. To this I ſeriouſly applied myſelf, and after reading it and re-reading it, I became ſo enamoured that I reſolved to commence writer.

For this purpoſe, when the weather was ſerene, I uſed to walk to the commons, to compoſe pieces to be committed to paper on my return.

On a fine afternoon, after reading that part of my favorite author which treated of ſtile, I reſolved to try what figure my own would make in a deſcription of this beautiful evening. I ſallied forth full of tropes and figures, and ſoon reached the commons, where my luxuriant imagination was greatly aſſiſted by the objects which preſented themſelves. The ſhepherds and ſhepherdeſſes tending their flocks; the calm ſerenity which reigned throughout the plain; the beautiful herbs and flowers, with many other of the beauties of nature were brought into my deſcription, when I thought it ſo much like ſo many others I had read, that I determined to drop the attempt. And I might then ſafely have ſaid, with many others now-a-days, "Devil take theſe ancients, they have ſtolen all my fine thoughts from me." But to complete my mortification, two of ſhepherds (butcher's boys, placed there to watch the ſheep which are to be taken to market) began to quarrel, and, "Tiſſ's kint, and Hellkrutz," reſounded thro' the heretofore "calm ſerenity of the plain," 'till they gathered a mob of ſhepherds and ſhepherdeſſes, that I was extremely happy to eſcape from.

I ſtill marched on, intending to croſs the Schuylkill and go to the houſe of a friend, where, if I could not deſcribe, I might at leaſt enjoy, the fine evening. I ſoon reached the houſe, was cordially welcomed by my friend, and invited to partake of a bowl of delicious ſyllabub. I ſtaid till I judged it time to return, and then ſaying God bleſs them, I moved homeward much better pleaſed with the reality than the deſcription of rural enjoyments.

I had not, however, advanced many paces, when I obſerved every appearance of a tremendous ſtorm gathering in the weſt. But, inſtead of endeavouring to eſcape from it, as a wiſer man would have done---I began to deſcribe it.

I was ſo intent upon my deſcription, that it was ſome time before I felt myſelf getting wet: however, thinks I'll walk ſlowly on till I get better acquainted with the ſubject. The rain ſtill encreaſed, it thundered and lightened; and, by the time I reached Market-ſtreet, I was ſo *thoroughly acquainted with the ſubject*, that I was glad to pop into the firſt houſe that would receive me.

(To be continued.)

Foreign Intelligence.

PARIS, November 24.

LETTERS from Normandy give an account of an act of heroiſm that deſerves to be recorded. In the ſtorm between the 6th and 7th of laſt month, the veſſel commanded by captain Robert, of Fecamp, was driven on ſhore, when Jean Francois Peſtel, of the pariſh of Berniers Surmer, judging it was ſcarcely poſſible the veſſel could eſcape being overſet, undreſſed himſelf, and having tied a rope round his wriſt, plunged into the ſea, and gained the ſhore, notwithſtanding the darkneſs of the night and the fury of the wind and waves. By means of this rope he ſaved the lives of ten perſons he left on board, and in two minutes after the laſt had quitted the ſhip, ſhe was daſhed to pieces.

They write from Point-a-Mouſſon, that about midnight, between the 6th and 7th of laſt month, a fire broke out in a barn, and the flames communicated to ſome magazines for wood, they could not be ſuppreſſed till ſix o'clock in the morning. Upwards of twenty perſons periſhed in the attempt to prevent the flames ſpreading to the neighbouring dwelling houſes; and four of the regiment of Rochefoucault were wounded, but not dangerouſly.

LONDON, December 16.

One of the moſt comprehenſive and inviting advertiſements we recollect to have ſeen, was publiſhed lately by a perriwig-maker in Dublin, who holds out the following inducement to people of the different profeſſions. To eccleſiaſtical perriwigs he gives a certain demure air: he confers on the wigs of the law an appearance of great ſagacity and deep penetration; on thoſe of the faculty of phyſic he caſts a ſolemnity and gravity that gives aſſurance of profoundeſt knowledge; To thoſe of the military caſt, he adds the animating buckle, which gives the wearer a moſt warlike fierceneſs; for citizens and tradeſmen, he has contrived a wig, which, by putting on, or taking off the tail at pleaſure, will leave them both for dreſs and buſineſs. He further gives notice, that for the accommodation of young barriſters not much troubled with caſh or buſineſs, he has invented wigs, the bags of which can be tied into a ſmart bob in vacation, and reſtored again in their priſtine form at the return of term.

Letters from Bruſſels, dated November 10, ſay, that the emperor has, within theſe few weeks enacted ſome new ſumptuary laws, by which every article of the Britiſh woolen manufacture has been prohibited in the Auſtrian Netherlands.

All accounts from the continent agree, that there is the utmoſt reaſon to believe that the ſword will be drawn between Ruſſia and the Porte before the new year.

The dreadful death general Matthews ſuffered, by order of Tippoo Saib, having been generally imputed to wanton barbarity in that chief, and that neither the unfortunate veteran nor any of his corps gave the ſmalleſt offence to the Myſore prince; but that the cruelties they ſuffered were practiſed in conſequence of the ferocious temper of Tippoo; we here preſent our readers with an extract of a letter from Bombay, dated the 18th of October laſt, which aſſigns a reaſon, however weak, why the unfortunate army and their brave leader were treated with indignity and inhumanity.

"When we ſurrendered Bedanore to Tippoo Saib, it was ſtipulated by one of the articles of the capitulation, that all the public property ſhould remain in the fort. Notwithſtanding this, general Matthews retained in his poſſeſſion a ſum of public treaſure amounting to 50,000 pagodas; and that he might be enabled the more eaſily to carry it off without diſcovery, he directed Mr. Stewart, the paymaſter, to diſtribute it in ſmall proportions among the officers, each officer taking much as he choſe, it being underſtood that each man was to return what he received from the paymaſter for the uſe of general Matthews, as ſoon as they ſhould arrive at Sadaſhagar, the place, where by the terms of the capitulation, they were to embark for Bombay. The money was accordingly diſtributed, and would probably have been carried off ſecurely, but for an accident. When our troops were marching out of the fort, a bed belonging to one of the officers was dropped, and in this bed was found a bag containing 400 pagodas. Information of this was immediately carried to Tippoo, who was led to ſuſpect from hence, and alſo from the circumſtances of not a rupee of public money being left in the fort, that we had broken that article of the capitulation, which provided for the delivery of all the public treaſure in the fort to him. In conſequence of this ſuſpicion he gave orders for a general ſearch of the officers and men. The ſearch was made; his ſuſpicion proved to be well founded, the money was diſcovered, and the officers were plundered of almoſt every thing they had. This I took this day from the mouth of Mr. Keith, an officer of the 42d regiment, who was in the fort at Bedanore at the time we ſurrendered it."

The truth of the above extract we cannot vouch for; but as it contains the firſt reaſon that has been yet aſſigned for Tippoo's cruelties, we thought it our duty to publiſh it.

A letter from Cirenceſter ſays, 'That a navigable work of a moſt arduous and extenſive nature, is now carrying on in that neighbourhood: which is nothing leſs than a junction between the Thames and Severn.' In this undertaking a prodigious mountain of more two miles and a quarter in length will be cut through, ſo that barges of 60 or 70 tons burthen may paſs. Near two miles of this ſubterraneous work are nearly finiſhed, and the whole navigation, which is thirty miles long, is expected to be finiſhed in a year and an half, but was hitherto imagined to be impracticable. When completed London will have a grand inland communication, (by water) with almoſt all parts of England and Wales, ſo that the trade upon this navigation muſt be immenſe. The people near the part of it that is already finiſhed, feel its good effects, by a conſiderable reduction in the price of coals.

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formed, and perhaps the most accomplished statesman in these kingdoms. When the lord lieutenant of Ireland, his administration in that kingdom stands unequalled for having given satisfaction to, and gained the confidence of that generous people. His lordship and Mr. Pitt are brother and sister's children. Mr. Pitt was born on the 28th of May, 1759.

American Occurrences.

KINGSTON, (Jamaica) Jan. 20.

Every account from the congressional provinces picture the situation of America as that of a state advancing rapidly towards a political annihilation. Fixed, however, as her doom appears to be, the most prejudiced of her enemies must allow, that she will yet be a mighty empire, although the period may be too remote for any living to look up to.

Thursday night died in this town of a broken heart, Mrs. Barbara Twiss. There was something affecting in the story of this poor woman. A few weeks ago she was well and happy in two fine young women, her daughters. The eldest died in Spanish-town, rather suddenly, which operated so fatally on the youngest, that being pregnant, it hurried her into labour, and she died distracted. This was too much for the unfortunate mother! but the Almighty saw her sufferings and summoned her from a world in which she had, nor wished, any further business. She had seen better days: her first husband was secretary of the island of Barbadoes, and a man of large property. After his death, and a second marriage, misfortunes overtook her, and drove her, with her daughters, to this island, where for a long time she experienced the greatest difficulties, a scanty support by the practice of what had been taught her as an accomplishment, teaching a few, very few indeed, to play on the guitarre!

We are assured official advices are received from the Musquito shore, importing that the British settlers have lately had a general meeting, which was productive of a solemn resolution to resist the Spaniards by force of arms, should they be encouraged to make their appearance on shore, in consequence of the recent cession made by the British ministry, and that they have entered into a strict league with the native indians, who are equally determined to oppose the Dons in every attempt they make to establish their oppressive government in that fertile and happy country.

NEW-YORK, March 1.

The translator of the marquis de Chastelleux's travels in North-America, relates the following singular circumstances which happened in 1777: A poor fellow was sent with a letter from general Burgoyne to general Clinton, inclosed in a silver bullet, miscarried in his message, and lost his life by the sameness of names of the American and British commanders. Falling in, in the woods, with a party of Americans, cloathed in British uniform, which they had taken, he enquired eagerly for general Clinton, to whom he was instantly conducted, but on discovering it was not the Clinton he was in search of, in the face of a number of spectators, he swallowed the bullet. Emeticks and purgatives were instantly administered, which made him disgorge, and the unfortunate fellow was hanged on the next tree.

He states the following incidents relative to Paul Jones: The America was the vessel given by Congress to the king of France, to replace the Magnifique, lost on Love's Island, in Boston harbour, when the French fleet entered that port some months after the defeat of the comte de Grasse. This ship was designed for the known Paul Jones, who, by his command of the little squadron on the coast of England, had acquired the title of commodore, and was sighing after that of admiral of America, which Congress, no bad appreciators of merit, thought proper to refuse him. The translator met him at a public table at Boston, on his return from Portsmouth; where he told the company, that notwithstanding the reason he had to be discontented, he had given his advice to the construction and launching of the vessel, in which latter operation, however, the ship stuck fast on the slip, but without any material damage. This accident is not intended by any means as an imputation on Mr. Jones, who certainly was fortunate enough at one time to render considerable service to America: he is said to have acquired a considerable property by the prizes he made in that cruize, but his officers and crew complain (translator does not say with what justice) that there has never been any distribution of prize money, and that many of his maimed and mutilated sailors were reduced to beg for a subsistence in France, to the discredit of America. Mr. Jones read some pretty enough verses in his own honor to the same company, at Brackets tavern in Boston, extracted from a London newspaper, and said to be written by lady Craven. The America is now at Brest, and is esteemed one of the handsomest ships in the French navy.

The same gentleman informs us, that Mr. Trumbull, son of governor Trumbull, of Connecticut, who was imprisoned in England while he was studying painting under Mr. Wells, is now at Paris, residing with Mr. Jefferson, and has finished two capital pictures of the death of Warren and Montgomery. They are esteemed chef d'œuvres by all the connoisseers in this sublime art.

PHILADELPHIA, March 8.

A facetious correspondent, having elaborately described his mechanical powers, proposes to remove, for a very small reward, our state-house, with every apparatus, suitable to declamation and protraction of the sessions, either to that *salubrious* and *beautiful* town Harrisburgh, or any where else. He has also given us a long dissertation, to demonstrate, that no *augmentation* of debts or taxes, could flow from this *elevated* idea; and concludes to illustrate his hypothesis, and proves its practicability, by attempting to shew from ancient records, that the chapel of Loretto was transported solely by the power of mechanism, independent of any supernatural intervention. But as objections may arise, notwithstanding the power of eloquence, to the salubrity of that latitude, he proposes an expedient to remove. also by magic exertions, a few acres of the Potter's field, and so zealous is our correspondent to display his zeal, on this important and necessary measure, that the ground is to be transported without any additional expence, save only a moderate quit rent to him and his heirs for ever.

Pittsburgh, March 31.

By a late letter from Annapolis, we are informed of several solemn conferences, between both houses of the legislature of that state; deputies have been nominated to the grand convention, to be held in Philadelphia in May next, from whose united deliberations and wisdom, so much dignity and benefit to the confederation is expected, by every well wisher to liberty and independence. The following clause is descriptive of the power with which they are invested. "It is agreed, that the deputies from this state, or any three or more of them, be authorised, on behalf of this state. to meet such deputies as may be appointed and authorised by the other states to assemble in convention at Philadelphia, for the purpose of revising the federal system, and to join with them in considering such alterations and farther provisions as may be necessary to render the federal constitution adequate to the exigencies of the union, and in reporting such an act, for the purpose, to the United States in Congress, as when agreed to by them and duly confirmed by the several states, will effectually provide for the same.

"It was also agreed, that five commissioners for this state be appointed, and that they, or any three or more of them, be authorised to meet commissioners from the states of Virginia, Pennsylvania and Delaware, jointly or separately, and to communicate the regulations of commerce, and duties proposed by each state, and to confer on such subjects as may concern the commercial interests of the said states. And, that the meeting of the commissioners be in the third week of September next, & at such places as they shall agree on. And, that their proceedings be reported to the legislature of this state."

A philanthropic writer, speaking of the pernicious consequences of war, expresses himself in the following energetic language: "The conquests of an Alexander, the slaughtered millions of a Cæsar, the daring rashness of a Charles, and the victorious career of a Frederick---these are the tales of wonder, which glow in such splendid colours beneath the pencil of an admiring recorder. These are the wretches that fill the world with carnage, trample on the liberties of mankind, break through all the ties of nature, and leave their names foremost in the lists of fame. Is this fame? Is fame the reward of military heroes, who, to use an excellent expression of Rousseau, are good for nothing, but to knock one another on the head. What a pother is made about this fame? The shining phantom which glitters on the ruins of humanity!

The Famous HORSE

DOVE,

WILL cover this season at the stable of the subscriber, living in Pittsburgh, at the low rate of Four Dollars and one bushel of oats, or Two Dollars the single leap; the season continues until the last of June.

Dove was got by Old Dove, out of the Wildair Mare, which were imported in one ship. It is needless to give a genealogy of his being full blooded, or half or quarter blooded; but his figure and breed are much esteemed in the parts from whence he was brought, where he got many colts, which, it is allowed, will be equal to himself, and his dropping colts will shew more at large, as he covered here last year.

JAMES CHAMBERS.

TO BE LET,

A Very valuable lot, situate between Major Ward's and Mr. George Thompson's, the terms will be made known by the subscriber at Sewickly.

Likewise, to be let, a large stable and lot in Front-street, lately occupied by Devereux Smith.

DANIEL ELIOTT.

March 29.

Stop the Horse Thief!

A Certain Stephen Ward, who has been lately among the Indians, and on his return on Feb. 22d stole a likely young horse, grazing on the waters of Mingo creek, in Washington county, Pennsylvania, the property of Robert Ayres, one of the travelling preachers; but the horse being challenged on the Monday following, the thief, the same evening, in order to conceal his crime, took the horse into a wilderness near James Crawford's ferry on Monongahela, and led him down a very steep bank into a gulf between two hills, and inhumanly murdered him, and covered him with stones, logs and bark, but being discovered in a few days by birds of prey, the thief immediately made his escape, and took with him a sorrel horse about 15 hands high, with a blaze in his face. The said thief is supposed to be about 25 years of age, 5 feet 6 or 7 inches high, has dark short strait hair, thin face, dark hollow eyes, down look, has lost the great toe of his left foot; had on and took with him a blue regimental coat faced with red, fustian breeches, white cloth leggins, decorated with wampum, buckskins mokasins, brown great coat, a large fine hat. Whoever apprehends said thief and brings him to justice, so that the owners loss may be repaired, shall receive eight dollars reward, and reasonable charges, paid by

March 27. SAMUEL LITTEN.

CLAIMS against the UNITED STATES.

Office of accounts, Marine Department, New-York January 1, 1787.

ALL persons having claims against the United States, for services performed, or articles supplied, in the Marine Department, are hereby notified, that unless their accounts are speedily sent to this office, they will be precluded from any settlement as a day will shortly be fixed, after which no claims will be received.

BENJAMIN WALKER, Commissioner.

The several printers throughout the United States, are requested to insert the above in their papers.

WHEREAS my wife Isabella Culbertson, has gone off with one John Deary, alias Rooney, and have carried off some valuable property belonging to me, I hereby offer a reward of FIVE DOLLARS to any person or persons who shall secure the said John Deary. And I hereby advertise that no person credit the said Isabella Culbertson, as I will pay no debts on her account. It is said they stole a canoe and went down the river.

JOHN CULBERTSON.

Pittsburg, 23d March, 1787.

N. B. Said Deary has taken with him the subscriber's certificate of the oath of allegiance to this state, and may pass himself by my name.

WHEREAS my wife Susannah Morgan has eloped from my bed and board, and behaved in a very scandalous manner, This is to forewarn all persons from trusting her on my account, as I will pay no debts of her contracting.

ABRAHAM MORGAN.

Washington County, March 23.

EPIGRAM.

ONE day behind my lady's back,
My lord attack'd her maid,
And stole a kiss, which she repaid,
And gave him smack for smack
Pert with such freedoms, pray said she,
Who kisses with the greatest glee?
Is it my lady, or is't I?
'Tis you, no doubt, he made reply.
Why in good faith it must be true,
Resum'd the wanton dame;
For Tom and John, and Chaplain too,
At times told me the same.

ANECDOTE.

AT last assizes in the county of Norfolk, in England, a man was tried on a charge of bigamy. Two wives had already proved their titles to his person, when a third stood up for the same purpose, and a fourth appeared in readiness. 'Why, you fellow,' exclaimed the judge, 'at this rate, where did you intend to stop?' 'To stop, my lord!' replies the other, 'I was only going on till I could find a good one.'

JUST opening at the Store of the subscriber in Pittsburgh, a complete cargo of West-India Goods, of the first quality, and other Groceries, to which will be shortly added, a general assortment of Dry Goods, as usual, all which will be sold on the most reasonable terms for cash, or any kind of country produce, at market price.

James O'Hara.

January 24, 1787.

THE subscriber wishing to finish the business of JAMES O'HARA & Co. requests that all persons indebted to that firm, will make the necessary payments before the first day of May next, as his situation obliges him to put every open account belonging to the company, on that day, into the hands of their attorney. He hopes that his friends and customers will acknowledge the distant period fixed upon for payment, sufficiently generous, and that they will leave him no cause to exclaim or put them to any further trouble. Country produce of all kinds will be received at market prices: all those who have any demands, are informed that the necessary arrangement is made for making immediate payment of all the charges that may be brought against them.

James O'Hara.

Pittsburgh, January 24, 1787.

THE Partnership of John & Daniel Craig being this day dissolved, I hereby inform all persons not to credit said Daniel on my account, as I am resolved to pay no contracts of said Daniel's after this date. JOHN CRAIG.

Pittsburg, February 24, 1787.

N. B. The hatter's business will still be carried on with more speed and regularity than ever, as there will be more attention paid to it.

CAME to the plantation of the subscriber, living in Luzerne township, Fayette county, and state of Pennsylvania, a dark brown horse, about 5 years old, a large star in his forehead, the left hind foot white, mane and tail cut short, shod all round, trots and canters well. The owner is desired to come and take him away.

JOHN CONWELL,
within one mile of Muddy creek ferry.

February 23, 1787.

Five Pounds Reward.

RAN-AWAY from the subscriber, on the 28th of February, at night, a servant Man, named JAMES ELLIOTT, about twenty-one years of age, five feet seven inches high, black hair, which he wears tied. He was born in Ireland, and says he was bred a sailor; had on and took with him a grey coating great coat, a drab coloured broadcloth coat, that doth not fit him, one pair Scotch striped stockings, one pair ditto fulled worsted, and a wool hat: most of the cloaths are stolen, except his breeches, which are of corduroy, very much worn. Whoever takes up and secures the said servant in any gaol shall receive the above reward and all reasonable charges paid by,

GEORGE FUNK.

Bedford, March 1, 1787.

AN OFFICE

For the Purchase and Sale of the various kinds of Continental and State Certificates. Also Houses, Lots and Lands, by

MATTHEW M'CONNEL,

ON the east side of Second street, between Market and Chesnut streets, seven doors below Black Horse-alley, Philadelphia. Who furnishes Certificates for the Land Office, and will carry the warrants through, clear of any commission.

All applications and orders from persons residing in any part of this, or of the United States, will be punctually attended to; whether to make purchases or sales, payments in the land office, or to receive interest at the continental loan office or state treasury.

Just opened and to be sold by the subscriber living on the bank of the river, between Mr. David Duncan's and Mr John Ormsby's.

A LARGE *and general assortment of DRY and WET GOODS, which he will dispose of on the most reasonable terms for cash, country produce, peltry or ginseng.* *JOHN GIBSON.*

CERTIFICATES for the LAND-OFFICE MAY *be had of the subscriber, at his office in Market-street, between Fourth and Fifth streets, nearly opposite the sign of the Black Bear, where every person applying may be furnished with the exact sum they may have occasion for in the land-office, and their warrants carried through without any other charge than the fees of the different offices, by* *THOMAS FORREST.*

Who buys and sells all kinds of CERTIFICATES of this state, or any of the United States.

Philadelphia, Sept. 2, 1786.

DANIEL BRITT & CO.
Have for Sale, a General Assortment of
MERCHANDIZE,

WHICH will be Sold on reasonable Terms for Cash, Flour, Whisky, Beef, Pork, Bacon, Wheat, Rye, Oats, Corn, Ashes, Candlewick, Tallow, &c &c.

Pittsburgh, July 28.

DANIEL BRITT & Co. once more call on those indebted to the late house of Craig, Bayard & Co. to come and settle their accounts, as they need not expect any further lenity.

Pittsburgh, Dec. 20, 1786.

WHEREAS Mr. Isaac Craig of this place, pretended to have a title to a lot No. 256, on the corner of Short street, and now in my possession; and as the said Isaac Craig may perhaps sell to some person ignorant of my claim, I hereby inform the public that I conceive myself to have the best title to the said lot, and that I shall hold it until I am put out by course of law.

DAVID DUNCAN.

Pittsburgh, March 8, 1787.

NOTICE is once more given to all persons who are indebted to the estate of Matthew Hays, either by bond, note, or book account, to come and settle on or before the first of April, or no further attendance will be given by MARY HAYS.

Washington county, March 19, 1787.

TO THE PUBLIC.

THE subscriber having heard that reports are circulated, which may tend to hurt the ferry he has lately established at this place, thinks it will not be improper for his own interest, and that of the public, to undeceive any who may be imposed on thereby.

In the first place, it has been represented, that he had built his house on a wrong lot, which might be taken by some other person, by which he would lose his house and ferry. In answer to this, he can assure the public, he is perfectly safe, having lately deeded two lots more on that side, which puts it out of the power of any evil inclined person to hurt him in that respect.

It is now represented, that he is to be turned out on the plea of former possession, and that it is in contemplation to summon a jury for that purpose; if such an action should be brought against him, it can only end to the loss and disgrace of the prosecutors, as he got peaceable possession, and bought the rails that surrounded his lot from the person who put them up. As to what the subscriber formerly mentioned, of some persons pretending to have an exclusive privilege to ferrying at Pittsburgh, it is so hurtful to the rights of individuals, and so injurious to the public at large, that he is in no fear the honorable assembly will ever grant it to any person, even if they had the power to do it.

He returns thanks to his friends for their former favors, and shall do every thing in his power for their accommodation at his ferry, both on this and the other side of the river.

HUGH ROSS.

Pittsburgh, March 23, 1787.

The Famous HORSE

EXPERIMENT,

WILL cover this season, at the stable of the subscriber living in Pittsburgh, at the low rate of six dollars the season; three dollars the single leap: and two bushels of oats: or twelve dollars for ensuring a colt.

Experiment was bred by Col. William Churchill, in Middlesex, old Virginia; his sire King Herod, who was got by old Fearnought, out of the high bred imported mare Kitty Fisher; his dam by Othello; his grand dam by Childers; his great grand dam by the imported horse Dancing Master.

THOMAS PARKER.

N. B. Good pasture may be had convenient and reasonable.

POST-OFFICE.

Philadelphia, March 2, 1787.

NOTICE is HEREBY GIVEN, THAT in consequence of a contract entered into for that purpose, there will shortly be a regular communication by post, between the town of Alexandria, in Virginia, and Pittsburg, in this state, by the route of New-Gate, Leesburgh, Winchester, Fort Cumberland, and Bedford. The mail will be carried weekly from May 1st to November 1st: and once a fortnight the remainder of the year. This establishment will take place, as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made.

If any person inclines to form a more direct communication between this city and Fort-Pitt, by carrying a mail regularly from this office to Bedford, so as to tally with the Virginia post, that route may now be contracted for upon advantageous terms---as the exclusive privilege of carrying letters and packets for hire, between this city and Bedford, and all the emoluments arising therefrom, will be granted for any term, not exceeding seven years, to any person undertaking the business at his own expence, and giving satisfactory security for performance.

Section 4. AND whereas upwards of five years have elapsed since this state undertook to compensate the officers and soldiers of the Pennsylvania line of the late army of the United States of America, for the losses sustained by the same officers and soldiers severally, by receiving their pay in depreciated bills of credit; and whereas divers of the said officers and soldiers who were intitled to the relief intended for them have not applied in person, nor by their agents or attornies in fact, executors or administrators, to ask, demand or take out the certificates for the depreciation aforesaid, which were directed by an act of general assembly, enacted for that purpose on the eighteenth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty, intitled, "An act to settle and adjust the accounts of the troops of this state, in the service of the United States, and for other purposes therein mentioned." And whereas many abuses have been attempted and practised by persons not of kin to the deceased soldiers, nor having demands upon their estates, taking out letters of administration, and by setting up false and fraudulent claims to certificates for depreciation, which remained unissued; and it is proper that the certificates aforesaid, which yet remain in the hands of the comptroller general of this state, and all other certificates for depreciation, which have not hitherto been demanded by the persons respectively who are or were intitled to them, should be secured from further abuse, and likewise that some limitation should be given to the issuing of certificates for depreciation.

Sect 5. Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, That from and after the publication of this act, none of the certificates which have been made out for compensating the losses of the officers and soldiers aforesaid, by receiving depreciated bills of credit, nor any other certificates of the like nature, which have been made out, or which have been directed to be made out, to any person or persons in the pay of the United States of America, or of this state unissued, or which be not yet made out, shall be delivered to any person, other than the person who is intitled to the same, or to his attorney in fact, properly authorised by letter of attorney, duly executed and recorded in the office for recording of deeds in the county of Philadelphia, or to his executor or executors, or to his administrator or administrators, legally intitled to the same or a share thereof, by succession ab intestato: and that all the depreciation certificates aforesaid, of whatever nature or kind, which from and after the first day of April, which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven, shall remain unclaimed and not taken out, shall be deemed and considered as escheats to the commonwealth, in the like manner and to the like effect, as if the several persons who are or were intitled to the same certificates were dead without kindred.

The foregoing is an extract from a law of this state, passed the 25th day of March 1786, which is thus published for the more general information of all concerned. JOHN NICHOLSON.

Comptroller-general's office, Phila. Jan. 31, 1787.

TAKEN up by the subscriber on the 10th of October, a black horse, about 14 hands high, seven years old, has a speck on the off eye, the brands unknown. The owner is desired to come, prove his property, pay charges, and take him away.

WILLIAM GILLESPIE.

March 9.

PITTSBURGH: *Printed and Sold by* JOHN SCULL and JOHN BOYD, *at their Printing-Office in Water-street, near the Ferry where* Subscriptions (at 10/ per ann.) Advertisements, *&c. for this Paper, are thankfully received, and* PRINTING *in its different Branches is done with Care, Elegance, and Expedition.*—ADVERTISEMENTS not exceeding a Square are Inserted Three Weeks for a Dollar, and every continuance after one-fourth of a Dollar; those exceeding a Square are inserted in proportion.